

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-11 remain pending in the application.

Applicant appreciatively notes that claims 10 and 11 have been allowed and that claims 2-7 and 9 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,545,667 to Niwa et al. In response, claim 2 has been incorporated into claim 1 and accordingly this rejection has been overcome and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP



Kenneth M. Berner
Registration No. 37,093

Customer Number: 22429
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1111
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile
Date: April 25, 2005
KMB/jd